

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7, 9-10, 12-15 and 17 are amended. Claims 19-22 are added. No new matter has been added.

Support for amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification, drawing figures, and the claims as filed, but especially in Figs. 4-6c and their related disclosures in the specification. Support for new claims 19-22 can be found in the same drawing figures and the disclosure in the specification.

For the following reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. REPLY TO REJECTIONS

A. 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 2, item 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 11-14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,858,152 to Slipy et al. (hereinafter "Slipy"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted in the Abstract, Slipy is directed to a communication device 1600 such as a portable radio telephone handset with interchangeable faceplates which are removably attached to a housing 102 (see, for example, Abstract of Slipy). Fig. 2 of Slipy, for example, discloses a faceplate 104 having a plurality of key holes 158, a lens aperture 160, and a plurality of ear holes 164. As readily apparent from Fig. 2 of Slipy, the faceplate 104 is configured to cover the entire front side of the housing 102 or the main body (see, for example, Fig. 2, col. 5, lines 17-33 and

col. 5, lines 41-54 of Slipy). That is, Slipy discloses a removable face plate that cover the entire front face of the housing.

Further, Slipy discloses that the faceplate 104 may be removably attached to the housing 102 by inserting the one or more tabs 172, 174, 176, 178 formed in the periphery of the faceplate 104 to penetrate the matching corresponding slots 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148 and 150 variously located throughout the front side of the housing 102 in a snap fit connection (see, for example, col. 5, lines 66 through col. 6, line 2 of Slipy). A better view of the tab-slot combination is shown in Fig. 3 of Slipy showing the underside of the faceplate 104 having tabs 172-206 that are formed in the peripheral edges of the faceplate 104 used for the snap fit connection. As readily seen in Figs. 2 and 3 of Slipy, the tabs 174-206 are stubby projections for insertion into the corresponding slots. Finally, Slipy discloses that a tongue 188 of the faceplate 104 may be inserted and snap fitted into the slot 156 at the first end of the housing 102 (see, for example, Fig. 2, col. 6, lines 2-4 of Slipy).

Figs. 8-14, 18-21 of Slipy show another embodiment of a flip-type keypad cover 418 or a moveable element 1802, which are connected to faceplates 404 or 1804 that cover the entire front face, including the buttons, display, and the ear portions. Also shown in this embodiment, all the tabs for insertion into the slots for snap fitting are formed on the housing. Thus, the tabs of Slipy are not mounted, or fitted, slidingly along a groove or a body.

Consequently, Slipy fails to disclose or suggest a telephone body comprising a button portion and a groove formed on a side of the telephone body, and an interchangeable button

cover interface which is configured to detachably couple to the body by slidably fitted along the straight groove, and which supports multiple different types of button covers, as recited in claim 1. Likewise, Slipy fails to disclose an interchangeable button cover for a mobile telephone body, comprising an attachment device disposed on the button cover and configured to removably attach the cover to a mobile telephone body, wherein the attachment device includes a frame configured for slidably mounted along a mobile telephone body, as recited in claim 6. Further, Slipy fails to disclose a mobile telephone, comprising a plurality of elongated grooves disposed on the telephone body, and an interchangeable button cover configured to cover substantially only a plurality of key buttons on the telephone body and comprising an elongated attachment structure disposed on the button cover and configured to be removably and slidably fitted along the plurality of elongated grooves, as recited in claim 12.

As shown in Figs. 6A-6C of Applicant's drawing figures, the frame portions have a particular shape that correspond to the grooves of the telephone body. The frames are slidably fitted along the grooves for the attachment as well as easy detachment.

In Slipy, in contrast, the tabs 172, for example, are merely hooks that enter or penetrate the slots 140, for example, to hook the faceplate 104 onto the housing 102. The tongue 188 of the faceplate 104 also merely hooks the faceplate 104 into the slot 156. The tabs of Slipy are mere stubs rather than frames, and the slots of Slipy are holes rather than grooves. Further, the tabs of Slipy are inserted into slots of Slipy rather than being slidably fitted along the slots.

Consequently, Slipy fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claims 1, 6 and 12, and claims 1, 6 and 12 are patentable over Slipy. Claims 3-4, which depend from claim 1, claims 7-9 and 11, which depend from claim 6, and claims 13, 14 and 16-18, which depend from claim 12, are likewise patentable over Slipy for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 3, item 8 of the Office Action, claims 2, 5, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Slipy. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Slipy fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 1, 6 and 12. Consequently, claims 2 and 5, which depend from claim 1, claim 10, which depends from claim 6, and claim 15, which depends from claim 12, are likewise patentable over Slipy for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the

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application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Seth S. Kim**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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